



# Guidelines for the Presentation of Thesis Incorporating Published Papers

---

## Purpose

The purpose of these Guidelines is to assist candidates and their supervisors when preparing a thesis which incorporates published papers.

## 1. Regulatory Requirements

Candidates and supervisors are directed to the following regulations:

Regulation 5.1B – The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, section 8 The Thesis, and section 9 Presentation of a Thesis.

Regulation 5.1 C – Masters Degrees by Research, section 8 The Thesis, and section 9 Presentation of a Thesis.

Regulation 5.1D – Professional Doctorates, section 13 Presentations of a Portfolio.

These regulations address the broad requirements of the thesis or portfolio, and its presentation.

## 2. Thesis incorporating published papers.

A thesis incorporating publications is a thesis where papers based upon the candidate's research (Masters by Research or PhD) or professional activities (Professional Doctorate) form a substantial part of the thesis content, rather than where one or more papers are included as appendices to a thesis.

All publications incorporated into the thesis must be based on the candidate's research undertaken through the period of candidature. Candidates are encouraged to select journals which are rigorously peer-reviewed and are highly suitable to their research area#. The relative standard of journals should be considered and high quality journals are recommended. Further information can be obtained from the Research and Graduate Studies Office.

Peer-reviewed papers must have been either published or accepted for publication (evidence of publication or acceptance should be included as an appendix to the thesis). In jointly authored papers, the candidate should be the senior/first author and the contribution of the candidate must be indicated.

To justify the submission of a thesis in this format, the majority of the thesis will be in the published form. The standard and content should be equivalent to that required for a Masters by Research, PhD, and a Professional Doctorate. Where several published papers are included, they should be sequential in their presentation of research findings. In the case of a Professional Doctorate, they might reflect different projects undertaken by the candidate. Other chapters of the thesis might be presented in the form of papers prepared for publication but not yet submitted. The status of these publications must be clearly indicated.

## 3. Thesis structure

Any thesis presented incorporating publications must still have a structure resembling a typical thesis in the relevant discipline and must read as a coherent whole. The thesis should have an introduction which acts as a framework, placing the research program in context, and conclusions which link the research with the established body of knowledge.

**Warning – Uncontrolled when printed! The current version of this document is kept on the UB website.**

The contained publications should be “stand-alone” chapters. Additional chapters which have not yet been published might be presented in the format of papers for publication, however it must be made clear to the examiner the status of these papers (draft, submitted to a specific journal, etc.) Unless one of the published papers is a literature review, there should be a chapter that reviews the literature to provide context for the published papers.

It is accepted that there might be some repetition within the introduction of papers and that additional chapters or appendices might be needed offering further information or presenting work (maybe unsuccessful experimentation or lines of enquiry) that has yet to be, or might never be, published. A thesis presented incorporating publications must demonstrate equivalent intellectual content to that of the more typical thesis format.

# Candidates and supervisors are advised to submit their research findings to journals approved as part of the University’s Higher Education Research Data Collection annual report to the Department of Education, Science and Training.

**Warning – Uncontrolled when printed! The current version of this document is kept on the UB website.**

Authorised by: Academic Board 4/04  
Maintained by: Research & Graduate Studies Office  
Review Date: 2007

Original Issue: 19/05/04  
Current Version: 19/05/04  
Page 3 of 2